

Western Regional Community Clinical Oncology Program

<http://www.westernccop.com/>

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Overview

Western Regional Community Clinical Oncology Program (WRCCOP) is a non-profit, research organization dedicated to promoting high quality, state-of-the-art cancer treatment in Arizona and Colorado. We are funded by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the largest branch of the National Institute of Health. It is our intent to always set forth the highest standard for safety and welfare of our participants. Since 1983 our sole purpose is to understand the causes of cancer, its prevention and treatment. We support the community, local physicians and health care providers through educational programs as well as provide information on new treatment options, cancer detection and prevention, and allow accessibility to the most recent research supported by the National Cancer Institute.

What is a Community Clinical Oncology Program?

The Community Clinical Oncology Program was established by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in 1983 in response to oncologists, trained at large cancer institutes or teaching universities who began to practice in community settings. They wanted to continue to participate in cutting edge technology and knew that participation in clinical trials would be mutually beneficial for community physicians and their patients. Since then, CCOPs have become one of the foundation stones of the clinical trials network of the National Cancer Program.

Today CCOP has accomplished the early goals of including the community physicians in the research process. The program now includes 4,000 community physicians and 403 community based hospitals spanning 34 states, the Districts of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Since 1983, 98,200 patients participated in treatment trials in addition to the 77,765 who enrolled in prevention and control trials. Even still it is estimated that only 15% of Americans are aware of clinical trials and less than 5% actually participate in clinical trials.

CCOP not only transfers the latest research findings directly to the community through patient care, but also increases the number of patients and physicians who can participate in clinical trials developed at major research centers. By spreading a large research net through local physicians and hospitals the program allows scientists to conduct large-scale cancer prevention and control studies that can determine more insight into disease processes and provide information to better combat cancers.

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The Western Regional Community Clinical Oncology Program is a nonprofit community-based program committed to bringing state-of-the-art clinical research to cancer treatment patients and to healthy individuals who may be at risk for cancer.

WRCCOP works closely with physicians and hospitals in the Arizona and Colorado to provide appropriate cancer research protocols to meet individual needs. The Community Clinical Oncology Program's highly trained staff of registered oncology nurses coordinates with physicians to provide the cancer patient with information, education and research guidelines. In addition, they recruit individuals who may be at high risk of cancer to the oncology program's wide variety of cancer prevention studies.